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JANUARY 15, 1957

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VOICE OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

- Living Protestantism In Strife-torn Hungary
- Printed Filth a Challenge To the Church in America

OFFICIAL NAE ORGAN

Readers Say—

Southern Baptist View

To the Editor:

As a pastor in the Southern Baptist Convention, I want to thank you for the editorial, "Our Concern for the Southern Baptists" in a recent issue of *Action* magazine. I believe that you made clear your genuine concern for the continued effectiveness of our denomination's witness. Of numerous critical evaluations of Southern Baptists that I have read, none is more convincingly well meaning and kind than your editorial.

I believe that many of us Southern Baptists are becoming aware of one danger that you mentioned—namely, that of denominational rule over local churches. However, it is my personal belief that the average Southern Baptist (minister or layman) does not think of theological liberalism as a threat to our denomination. I, for one, however, do feel that we may be going through a process that will make us more susceptible to liberal theological ideas. I can speak as a recent graduate of a Southern Baptist seminary. In several of my seminary classes views of divine revelation and Biblical inspiration were advocated which I found very difficult to harmonize with historic Baptist declarations of faith commonly regarded as accurate statements of essential Baptist beliefs. Whether my difficulty was real or imaginary, my point is this: the views taught in Southern Baptist colleges and seminaries will eventually find expression in Southern Baptist pulpits; therefore we Southern Baptists ought to be concerned that historic and basic Baptist beliefs are taught with clarity and conviction in our institutions of learning.

We Southern Baptists have become immune to all criticism outside our ranks. I am afraid, because we have received quite a bit of it that was uninformed or given in an uncharitable spirit. I fear that we have developed the tendency to brand all our critics as envious persons giving expression to a personal grudge against our denomination as a whole or some part of its organization. I hope that many of my Southern Baptist brethren will be impressed by the Christian spirit of your editorial, and will realize that you wrote to us as a friend.

WILLIAM L. CARDEN

Livingston, Tenn.

One of Many

To the Editor:

I look forward to every issue of *Action* magazine and feel that it fills a great need today.

I am a member of a denomination which is in the National Council of Churches. During my years of service I have been an elder, trustee and Sunday School superintendent and have tried to be helpful in every way I know. I am very much opposed to the policy and program of the NCC. I want to work for the Lord and not for some organization which it seems, at times, is doing all in its power to work against the Lord and His will as revealed in the Bible.

I am sure there are many others like myself all over America. It would seem that our hope is in some organization like the NAE.

FRED PAYNE

Cincinnati, Ohio

"Our People Are Blind"

To the Editor:

We need more information such as you have given us in *The Growing Super-Church* and *The Coming Great Church* revealing the monstrous dangers that are confronting Bible-believing churches today. Many of our people are blind to these dangers. I want to do all I can to help them see the truth and to help them come out of this modern Babylon.

E. WOOD

Eugene, Ore.

Disseminate the Truth!

To the Editor:

That article, "Poisons that Menace America," in your December 1 issue, is a splendid description of the narcotic business in our nation and should have wide distribution. You are rendering a great service in disseminating this information.

LINTON A. WOOD

Worthington, Ohio

To the Editor:

"Poisons that Menace America" should be reprinted in pamphlet form and distributed widely. I would like to have 100 copies.

One reason why I am so interested is because of an experience in our community. Last October I showed the film, "One in 20,000," in our High School. It tells the story of the growth of lung cancer caused by cigarette smoking. There was a strong demand for it to be shown in a meeting of the Parent-Teacher's Association, but smoking members held up the project.

Why is it that so many people are unwilling to learn the truth about some of these evils which are undermining the health and the well-being of our nation?

MRS. WM. G. MUNSTER

Old Orchard Beach, Me.

To the Editor:

"Liquor and our National Defense," an editorial in *Action* magazine dated Oct. 15, 1953 should be brought up to date and sent all over the nation.

I feel we evangelicals should take the lead in a "dry" movement. Few laymen are able to write letters to our congressmen and a published statement such as your editorial which they could read, affirm by their signature and mail to their congressmen would seem appropriate to me.

We would like to get rid of liquor advertising and the sale of liquor in the armed forces. We would appreciate any help you can give. The WCTU would see that such literature was distributed all over our county.

I have taken your magazine a long time and appreciate it very much. I depend on it to keep abreast of current religious thinking.

MRS. F. WARD REIGHARD

Washington, Pa.

FRONT PAGE PHOTO.—Hungarian refugees thank God for delivery from the tyranny and brutality of Communist Russia. Be sure to read the story of Protestantism in Hungary on page 4.

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Action

United Evangelical Action

An Interdenominational Journal of News and Opinion with a Program for United Action

Vol. XV January 15, 1957 No. 22

Editorial Offices:
111 East Fourth St.
Cincinnati 2, Ohio, U.S.A.

JAMES DE FOREST MURCH
Editor

VERDA BLOOMHUFF
Office Editor

NAE STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. **We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative word of God.**
2. **We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**
3. **We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.**
4. **We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.**
5. **We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.**
6. **We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.**
7. **We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

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PRINTED FILTH A CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCH

ROBERT JAMES ST. CLAIR

OUR NATION is today being bathed in filth. Vile poison is cascading down into every area of our social life. The growing minds of our youth are constantly subjected to it. The minds of adults are being immersed in it. The church is hardened to it, authorities ignore it, families pretend it isn't there or they accept it.

Our newsstands, department stores, bookstores and drugstores are filled to overflowing with magazine and "pocket book" descriptions of lurid crime, lust, savage hate, flagrant immorality, adultery, sexual perversion, dope addiction and alcoholism, complete with pictures and vivid details. Yet few are bothering to lift a finger against it. An insidious spiritual challenge is involved here. The deepest moral and doctrinal implications are confronting every Christian in America.

We understand from John 17 and the books of James and I John that we as Christians are living in two opposing realms. One is the church. The other is simply called "the world." "Do not love the world or the things in the world" we are told. "If any one loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world" (I John 2:15, 16).

The first realm—the church—is under the sensitive guidance of God, the Father. It is composed of those redeemed by a living faith in our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. The other—the world—is under all those other-than-godly influences lumped together by the biblical term "the evil one"—Satan.

The objective of the church is to exalt God, obey Christ, and live out the life of the indwelling Holy Spirit. The aim of the world is to exalt self and honor the evil one.

The one lives in freedom, the liberty which comes through bondage to God. The other, the world, is enthralled by that slavery issuing from moral laissez-faire.

The church's spirit is worship, yielding self to God, that of the world is egotism, making a god of self.

The temper of the church is vigorous life arising from self-sacrifice. The world's is neurotic despair born of self-indulgence.

The program of the church is to win souls by preaching, teaching and serving Jesus Christ in love. To churchmen the God-created passions of love, anger, desire to know, craving to achieve, and sex, are powerful forces which may be channeled into creative good by the love of God. The world ignores all moral restraints so that love becomes lust, anger becomes hate, the desire to know becomes Eve's curiosity for evil, the craving to achieve becomes self-aggrandizement, and sex becomes lasciviousness.

The printed corruption being made available to the American public breaks down all moral restraints. and opens the flood gates to all forms of license and immorality.

I recently entered a small department store in a shopping district in Cincinnati. With the consent of the management, I picked magazines out at random and noted their feature articles. Here are just a few from an extremely large array:

True Crime—"Dungaree Doll and Teen Age Lover on a Thrill-Kill Binge."

True Mystery—"Legal Prostitution in the U.S."

Suppressed—"America's Isle of Sin." Now that is an intriguing title! Imagine a nice, secluded spot in America (I wonder where) devoted just to sin.

Secrets — "My Husband Betrayed Me."

My Confession — "Drink! Men! And Sin!" The blazing neon-sign type of title with its screaming appeal is quite common.

Confession Stories—"Dope! Drink! Illicit Love! What It Did to Me."

Personal Romances — "Wife Swap Party."

Revealing Romances — "Any Man Can Be Tempted."

The publishers of this filth evidently assume that a disordered and unsatisfied sexual life must be prevalent, and that crime can only be appealing to the masses when related to sex. The vendors place on the racks what the public will purchase. There were only *five* or *six* worth-while magazines on the racks, simply because that was all the distributors could push. True, they could suddenly become very noble and push *Harper's Bazaar* and *The Atlantic Monthly,* and doubtless the public would be introduced to this material, but the printed filth moves by the carloads and means far more money. We may safely assume the distributors are interested in making money and not in educating the public.

The so-called "pocket books" provide their sordid appeal in the titles and cover pictures, but are deceiving. A rather bland story is often found in books with the worst covers, while horrible material is frequently found between innocent-looking book covers.

J. Edgar Hoover has this to say: "High in the ranks of contributors to juvenile delinquency are the vicious and unscrupulous peddlers, producers and printers of obscene literature. They are as responsible as the sex fiends they incite by their wares. After one particularly brutal rape-murder a killer told police, 'It was the magazines . . . the ones with the pictures of women . . . when I read them I couldn't control myself.' "

(Continued on page 5)

HUNGARIAN REFUGEES AT PROTESTANT CHURCH SERVICES IN VIENNA—Excapees from Hungary attend a religious service conducted by an Hungarian-speaking Austrian pastor in a refugee shelter. Services at these camps also are conducted by Hungarian ministers who have themselves escaped Soviet terror in their native country. Pastoral care for the refugees is provided in cooperation with Austrian Protestant churches..—RNS Photo.

THE PROTESTANTS OF HUNGARY

ANDREW KOSA*

PROTESTANTS constitute the second largest religious community in Hungary with about thirty per cent of the population. Hungary thus has a far greater Protestant minority than any other Roman Catholic country in the world. Yet many people look upon Hungary as largely a Roman Catholic country. This may in part be due to the fact that the Roman Church has been and still is largely in control of the official publicity made in connection with Hungarian affairs in the Western world. Two recent occurrences have effected some change in the relative size of the three religious comunities: the decrease of the number of Jews due to Hitlerism and partly to emigration and a lower birth rate, and the expulsion of about 300,000 Germans, nearly all Roman Catholics. The present population of Hungary is composed of about sixty-three per cent Roman Catholic, two per cent Uniats who do not acknowledge the primacy of the pope, and three or four per cent Jews. In this country of some 10,000,000 people there are 3,000,000 Protestants. More than seventy-five per cent of all the Protestants in Hungary belong to the Reformed Church community. Lutherans numbered 500,000 before the revolution. Baptists, Assemblies of God, Seventh Day Adventists and Methodists have several thousand communicants, but are in a decided minority.

All of the Hungarian Calvinists are not members of the Reformed Church of Hungary. Some 1,000,000 Hungarian Calvinists live in territories annexed by neighboring countries. The Reformed Church of Romania with a membership of about 800,000 is entirely Hungarian. The Reformed Church of Slovakia is ninety per cent Hungarian in its membership. The Reformed Church of Yugoslavia is ninety-eight per cent Hungarian. In Carpartho-Ukrainia, a territory annexed by the Soviets, there are about 45,000 people who are members of the Hungarian Reformed Church. Thus altogether there are more than 3,000,000 Hungarians (Magyars) belonging to the Reformed Church. In the Soviet dominated parts of Europe the Hungarian Reformed Church stands in the first place, both in size and historical significance. The second largest Reformed Church body is that of the Czech Brethren with a membership of about 300,000.

Unfortunately it is not widely known even in the Protestant world that the Hungarian nation was ninety-five per cent Protestant in the 16th century. This was due largely to the use of foreign troops (those of the Holy Roman Empire of the Hapsburgs) and the inquisitional methods of the Jesuits, and partly to the colonization of the country by foreign Roman Catholics that the Roman Catholic Church again gained the majority in Hungary.

Hungary was divided into three zones during the 16th and 17th centuries. Northern and Western Hungary were in the control of the Holy Roman Empire. Central and Southern Hungary were occupied by the Turks. And only Eastern Hungary and Transylvania were free from foreign occupation. The princes Stephen Bocskay, Gabor Bethlen and George Rakoczi I, led several successful wars against the Holy Roman Empire in order to secure religious liberty for Protestants. The peace treaties of Vienna (1606), Nickolsburg (1621) and Linz (1645) contained pledges to that effect. These pledges, however, were observed only as long as the princes of Transylvania were powerful enough to defend them.

Transylvania was the first principality in Europe to grant full liberty of religion. The National Assembly of 1547 pronounced the free exercise of religion for the Reformed, the Lutheran, the Unitarian and the Roman Catholic Churches. The Roman Catholic Church was not allowed to have bishops who could make the link stronger with Rome. It was argued that receiving orders from a foreign power, the papacy, was a hindrance to religious liberty. Otherwise the Roman Church enjoyed full liberty of worship and even a great freedom for proselytizing. Though Catholics were in a minority the Calvinist majority was so generous as to elect Catholics to be rulers (princes) of the country.

At the height of the persecution of Protestants in Northern Hungary in the 17th Century, more than 90

*Rev. Andrew Kosa is pastor of the Magyar Reformed Church of New Brunswick, N. J. He has been busy every day during the recent emergency at Camp Kilmer, N. J., welcoming refugees streaming from Hungary. Article used by courtesy *Church Herald.*

ministers were sold to become galley slaves. Those surviving from this group were liberated by Admiral Michael Ruyter of the Netherlands. From the beginning of the Reformation—and ever since—the Reformed Church of the Netherlands was the most faithful friend of the Hungarian Reformed Church. For the last 400 years there were always Hungarian seminary students studying in Dutch Universities on scholarships. Several of the Netherlands went to Transylvania and Hungary to make their contributions to the upbuilding of the Church of Hungary. Whenever Hungarian Calvinism has witnessed difficult times the Reformed Church of the Netherlands has done her best to help and relieve the sufferings of the Hungarian Reformed Christians. Besides, the Dutch Reformed Church, the Church of Scotland and the Swiss Reformed Church have likewise cherished the most cordial relations with the Magyar Reformed Church.

From the 16th century on the Calvinists of Hungary have established and maintained many schools. Most of the Protestant children had the opportunity of attending these Protestant schools. These Church schools were not only the most powerful instruments of the national culture, but also indispensable means for preserving Hungarian Protestantism. How wonderful would it be if Protestant Christians of the Western world were aware of the importance and the necessity of training all our children in Protestant schools. In this country it is strangely enough the Roman Church which fully avails itself of this most important means of Christian education. The signnificance of the church schools, however, was never underestimated by the Magyar Calvinists. And the harvest of their schools has always been a very rich one. The great majority of the greatest Hungarian writers, poets, thinkers and national heroes were alumni of Reformed Church schools.

Printed Filth

(Continued from page 3)

But the evil one has a twofold grip on our youth. He not only appeals to their growing craving for sexual fulfillment, but to their desire to be recognized as mature adults. The motion picture "The Bad Seed" is now showing! It concerns a ten year old girl with a freak recessive gene in her psychic makeup, causing compulsive killings. An advertisement in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* said, "Please don't tell about the girl," and she looked like a young woman instead of a child. Another section read, "A hidden shame out in the open—and the most terrifying rock-bottom a woman ever hit for love." Clearly the intended impression was, Here is a picture devoted to sex. Then in bold type: "Why 'The Bad Seed' is recommended for Adults only: We believe motion pictures are for everybody. However, the theme of 'The Bad Seed' is so special (it has never before been attempted on the screen)—its intimate probings so sensational (they will shock some)—this motion picture may not be suitable for younger people without worldly experience."

Now mark the assumptions well. First, a morbid preoccupation with lust provides rich entertainment. Second young people are denied this rich entertainment because they don't have "worldly experience." What should a young person do? Naturally, he should not be denied any longer, but should gain "worldly experience"—by which we mean a knowledge of all that is base and lewd—and the best way to get this "worldly experience" is (1) get it firsthand, (2) read the newsstand filth, and (3) go see the motion picture entitled "The Bad Seed."

Are the American people absorbing this "worldly experience"? The FBI reports that 2,262,450 major crimes were committed last year. Rape showed the highest increase—5.9%. But the shocking point is that I have seen some of this stuff in Christian homes. In such cases the tragic loss to the church cannot be computed statistically.

When the mind becomes drenched with pictures of unspeakable obscenity the will becomes poisoned. The lust of the eyes is followed by an invitation to taste the forbidden fruit.

The struggle with temptation drains the energy for witnessing for Christ. Leading ourselves into temptation attenuates our prayer life, our Bible study, our desire to serve God. Love for neighbor becomes so much drivel, and the church becomes irrelevant.

The committing of adultery behind the shades of the mind, so sternly abhorred by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, does not enter into any statistic, never gets into the papers, and is not heard of in court, but the omniscient God sees, and the evil one knows *He* sees, and to the devil that's what counts.

Declares James: "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." When we Christians are here to do battle with the enemies of the Lord, when the spirit of the world is so strong about us, why is it necessary to give evil a foothold in our homes?

What is a new person in Christ Jesus doing with detailed descriptions of dissipated men and women in his home? And in plain sight of children? If minds are filled with methods of lowering womanhood to the status of an animal, if they meditate on the techniques of cheating, stealing, killing and vengeance, what right do they have to peace? How can such minds discover the joy of our blessed Lord?

Jesus said, "I do not pray that Thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldst keep them from the evil one." How can we do this? I believe in three ways—

(1) Every home should be provided with Christian books and periodicals. It is foolish to attempt to keep people from something by warnings. Warnings sound enticing! Kind of exciting! Young people and oldsters as well need the formidable defense of deeper satisfaction. For example, I have been reading fascinating accounts of Adoniram Judson, John Knox, David Livingstone, Albert Schweitzer and others, which were far more exciting than the twaddle of radio and TV.

(2) Every church ought to have a lending library. And, best of all, the young people should take an active part in circulating good books.

(3) The devil's power is in the church's inertia. The people of God are also American citizens and it is our duty to speak out against this invidious assault on decency. Christians ought to at least speak a word to store owners. Church councils and official boards ought to write to stores and newspapers. Our task is to work with Christ in capturing souls out of the world into the church. Why make this task so much more difficult by permitting this stuff to poison the minds of friends and neighbors we must win for God? It is imperative we dry up this stream of corruption.

Christ yearns for a pure church. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." A pure church is a church of courage and power. She knows when there is work to be done, and with Christ in her midst she is not afraid to do it.

HUNGARIAN RELIEF

Evangelical contacts have been made in Europe by which Hungarian evangelicals may receive food, clothing and other necessary aid from American evangelicals. Send gifts to

World Relief Commission
National Asso. of Evangelicals
12-19 Jackson Avenue
Long Island City 1, New York

Chinese Visit

Washington officials have evidenced considerable concern over the most recent move of the National Council of Churches.

The State Department is being asked to re-determine its policy on allowing American citizens to travel to Communist China. This comes by virtue of the resolution adopted by a commission of the National Council of Churches, laying the groundwork for American churchmen to visit the Chinese mainland. In advancing this suggestion to NCC representatives, Dr. John Mackay, President of Princeton Theological Seminary, challenged government policy. He stated that Chinese churchmen cannot regard present policy as "ultimate and permanently authoritative." His reference was clearly aimed at the State Department policy not to validate American passports for travel to Communist China.

Government leaders will now be asked to shift their established policy to meet the whims of certain NCC leaders who would establish direct contact, not with the true uncompromising Christians of China but with those liberal churchmen who have sold out to the Communist regime.

Informed Christians in the U. S. believe that there is little chance that any visiting churchmen, whoever they may be, would get a realistic picture of the problems facing the true Christian Church in China. Certainly they would not get to see the many evangelicals who are being held in concentration camps. Nor would they view the real pressures to which the Church is subjected. On the contrary, they may be given chance to attend various worship services and perhaps would be allowed to speak to certain congregations. Following this the churchmen would very likely return with rosy reports of worship behind the bamboo curtain—reports not unlike those that came out of the other satellite countries during the past year.

The total effect could be nothing less than detrimental to the cause of the Church in China and advantageous to the propaganda interests of the nation which hopes soon to gain international recognition by being admitted to the United Nations.

Whose Missionary Territory?

Protestant missionaries in Colombia have been facing new problems in the definition of the boundaries of "mission territory." According to the concordat between the Vatican and the Colombian government the "mission territory" is a special reservation where only Catholic missionaries are allowed to operate. It was under the mission territory agreement that some forty Protestant churches were closed about ten months ago.

In order to implement the closing of certain of the evangelical churches Colombian officials redefined the boundaries of the mission territories in at least one case. Now comes word that other local government officials have resorted to this tactic in at least one more instance.

This time it was the area along the Magdalena River around San Antonio which was brought within the bounds

NAE Office of Affairs, Washington, D. C.
Cable Address: EFMANAE
Phone: NAtional 8-7911

of the mission territories. First word of this fact was the closing of the church at San Antonio on September 6, 1956.

When Protestant missionaries appealed to government authorities for the reopening of the church, they were simply referred to the wording of governmental orders on the mission territories.

It seems that there are no judicial powers in Colombia where any of the Protestant churches could hope to receive help in matters of this nature.

N. Y. Constitution Attacked

A matter is being carried to the New York State legislature which again raises the constitutional question. A group of private and sectarian colleges and universities has drafted a ten-point program for state support to private educational institutions. The private colleges and universities hope to get the legislature to adopt their program instead of authorizing wide expansion of the State University. The ten-point program includes grants and loans to the private institutions, and would set up semi-public educational institutions for professional and graduate training.

The president of the State University, commenting on the ten-point program, stated that "the suggestion for state loans and grants to private institutions might require a revision of the State Constitution's prohibition against state help for religious denominations." He also noted that the state would have little control over the money which would go to the private schools.

There is no doubt this action fits into a pattern of approach by certain sectarian interests which have a primary goal of capturing public funds for their educational projects. The present actions are not a direct assault on the Constitution but rather would establish policy by setting certain precedents. Once such precedents are established, and funds are flowing, it becomes a monumental task for any of the courts to turn the tide of policy.

This being the case it can be seen that one of the major areas of danger to religious freedom is in matter of policy based on certain laws, the constitutionality of which has never been challenged. An equal danger exists in the area of legislation which does not specifically exclude benefits to sectarian institutions.

New York is just one case in point. Special sectarian interests in that state have the personnel and the resources to give widespread study to methods of evading a direct test of the constitutional principle while violating it in practice. Yet there is no organization in the State which has staff assigned to study these assaults on constitutional principle. The churches of the area have not taken action to support government officials who see the involvements, largely because they have not had the facts brought to their attention as a matter for their concern.

What is true in New York is most certainly true in many other parts of the country. By far the greatest contribution toward meeting the problem is that of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State, an organization with headquarters in Washington, D. C. But no single organization can carry the whole weight of work in this area. What is needed is a general public awakening. It is still true that "Vigilance is the price of liberty."

World Day of Prayer
Friday, March 8

The National Association of Evangelicals has provided a special program for evangelicals.

(See page 11)

Vatican Move Scored

Recurring suggestions by Roman Catholic officials that the USA should establish diplomatic relationships with the Vatican have been scored by Dr. Glenn L. Archer, executive director, Protestants and Other Americans United for the Separation of Church and State.

"I am shocked," Archer said, "that responsible leaders of one of America's largest churches would deliberately provoke inter-creedal strife at this delicate and dangerous moment in our nation's history.

"President Truman's appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican in 1951 created a furor among our people. They were torn by a bitter dissension which pitted one religious group against others. That unfortunate appointment, which later had to be withdrawn, left a sad entailment of anger and resentment. All this should have taught our leaders the folly of such a move. The controversy which raged in 1951 made this fact plain—that the American people do not want a diplomatic representative to the head of any church.

"The Archdiocesan Union of Holy Name Societies meeting in Boston this month called upon the government to establish "full diplomatic relations with the Vatican, thus bringing about a closer cooperation with the spiritual and temporal forces of the world.

"The Knights of Columbus meeting in Detroit last August urged appointment of an ambassador or "at the very least . . . . a personal representative of the president" to the Vatican.

"Fordham University awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters in June to former quasi-Ambassador to the Vatican Myron C. Taylor.

Hope for Mankind

▪ OUR BASIC HOPE for the salvation of men and for a better world lies in two great facts. God through Christ seeks the souls of men that they may be saved. Man has an inborn desire to seek after God that he might know Him and do His will.

Since Eden, man has been under the curse of sin. Since Adam, man's fleshly nature has been weakened by the sins of humanity so that he is woefully predisposed to the wiles of the devil. All men have sinned and come short of the glory of God. But deep within the marred image of God with which they are endowed is an eternal yearning which under proper conditions will respond to the promptings of the Spirit of God.

In this pagan world we see men so engrossed in the pursuit of earthly riches, pleasures, power and knowledge that they have no time for the things of God. But we can be absolutely certain, despite what they may say or what they do, that they are not internally or truly happy. They never can be without the soul satisfaction which comes from peace with God.

Every Christian should highly resolve at the beginning of this new year to talk to all needy souls about God and the salvation which comes only through Jesus Christ. We need not have the slightest hesitancy in approaching people. We are conferring a favor on them—we are helping to answer their souls' sincere desire. God has prepared the way; His ambassadors can do the rest, with His Word and by His Spirit.

Liquor in the Armed Services

▪ PARENTS OF MEN in the armed services of the United States are deeply concerned about the growing popularity of beer and liquor drinking among military personnel. We know the Defense Department has 142 military installations where liquor can be purchased by servicemen. In all too many instances men who were total abstainers before they were drafted or enlisted have become victims of the liquor habit in the armed services.

We strongly commend the National Temperance League for its inquiry into the availability of alcoholic beverages at military installations and as to the effects of alcohol on military personnel. Among the pertinent questions yet unanswered are—

1. How many alcoholic servicemen or veterans are receiving treatment in military or veterans hospitals at government expense?
2. How many servicemen and officers are down-graded annually because of alcohol-caused misconduct?
3. How many military teen-agers are using alcoholic beverages because of the availability of 3.2% beer at PXs?
4. How many automobile accidents, brawls, crimes and tragedies are the result of drinking by military personnel on military bases (PXs, NCO Clubs, Officers Clubs, etc.)?
5. What is the total amount of money spent for alcoholic beverages at PXs, NCO Clubs, Officers Clubs, Company Clubs, Veterans' Clubs, package liquor stores and all other places at military installations where such beverages are made available to military personnel with governmental approval?
6. What steps are being taken to carry out the professed purpose of the Defense Department "to encourage abstinence, enforce moderation, and punish overindulgence"?

Unless answers to these questions and other pertinent information concerning the effects of alcohol on military personnel are made readily available in the near future, a congressional investigation would seem to be in order.

Action Editorial

James DeForest Murch

Vatican Envoy Again

▪ "ROME NEVER SLEEPS." Once the Roman Catholic hierarchy embarks upon a course of action to achieve an objective no defeat can dim that purpose or halt that course of action.

Rome is determined to establish diplomatic relations between the Vatican and the United States of America. Time after time she has raised the issue; time after time she has been defeated. Within the past few months she has been preparing the ground work for a new drive to establish diplomatic relations with the Holy See.

The National Association of Evangelicals and Protestants and Other Americans United have been in the forefront of non-Catholic leadership opposing every inch of the hierarchy. It might be interesting to our readers to know how the Romanist underground works in preparing the American public mind for the coming full-scale drive:

*The Archdiocesan Union of Holy Name Societies meeting in Boston in December, 1956 called upon the government to establish "full diplomatic relations with the Vatican, thus bringing about a closer cooperation with the spiritual and temporal forces of the world."

*The Knights of Columbus meeting in Detroit last August urged appointment of an ambassador or "at the very least . . . a personal representative of the president" to the Vatican.

* Shortly before his special audience with the Pope, former President Harry S. Truman reiterated on May 18 his advocacy of formal U. S. diplomatic recognition of the Vatican State.

*On May 30 Walter Winchell—who had proved an accurate prophet before President Truman's nomination of Gen. Mark Clark as U S Ambassador to the Vatican—wrote in his column: "Actor William Carter, son-in-law of the late Broadway showman Dwight Deere Wiman, may be the Vatican's next US Special Envoy."

*The US Army was represented at the May 6 swearing-in ceremony of the papal Swiss Guards by Col. Gordon E. Dawson, military attache at the US Embassy in Rome.

*President Eisenhower sent John McCone of Los Angeles to represent him at the March 10 Vatican City celebration of the Pope's 80th birthday and 17th coronation anniversary.

*Columnist Robert S. Allen reported on May 31, 1955 that a "new effort" was under way "to have the US exchange ambassadors with the Vatican" and that Congressman John Rooney of New York, chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee "which has jurisdiction over the budget of the State Department . . . ," would make the request to President Eisenhower.

We are alerting every evangelical throughout the nation to be ready for action. Our Washington office will inform us when, how and where to move so that we may be most effective in blocking and defeating the Romanist drive. If we all work together we will win again in our efforts to preserve religious freedom through the separation of Church and State.

Evangelical Newsfront

RNS AND E/P REPORTS UEA CORRESPONDENCE

MEN AND MISSIONS.—Twentieth century Christianity, statesmanship, business and industry met and shook hands over the banquet table at Spokane's Desert Hotel recently, when Washington's Governor, Arthur B. Langlie, Rev. Russell R. Kauffman, pastor of Hope Church, Indianapolis, and Clay Cooper, president of Vision, Incorporated, Spokane, led a meeting of men designed to put masculinity into foreign missions. The conclave rallied two hundred men who defied icy highways and foggy skies to drive and fly to the Inland Empire city from the four Northwest States and Canada. They represented many fields in business, industry and the professions. Its founders believe the unprecedented "Christianity With Its Sleeves Rolled Up" movement, which was launched with spontaneity and vision, will light fires for missions among Christian men around the world. Another event having no precedent in the field of foreign missions promotional activities, and sponsored by Vision, Inc., was a "Minister's Clinic on Missions" conducted by Rev. Russell R. Kauffman. Dr. Merv Rosell, internationally known evangelist, climaxed the four-day regional meet with a "Call to Men" at a mass meeting in Spokane's Coliseum. From the audience nearly five hundred men presented themselves for unqualified Christian discipleship at home and abroad.

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United Action

Cancellation of Luther TV Film Is Protested

CHICAGO.—A group of Protestant clergymen, including representatives of the National Association of Evangelicals, charged here that cancellation of the showing of the film "Martin Luther" by WGN-TV was "censorship" in violation of the station's authority to broadcast. They said the station's decision not to show the film was the result of "pressure" brought by "the Catholic Church."

The picture, based on the life of Martin Luther, 16th century Protestant Reformation leader, was scheduled for a telecast on Dec. 21. It would have been the picture's world television premiere.

Station WGN-TV, operated by the *Chicago Tribune,* said the program was withdrawn because of "an emotional reaction to the plan" to present it.

"Cancellation of the film," the group said, "constitutes an admission on the part of the television station involved that it is vulnerable to pressures which we are convinced, on the basis of our discussions with WGN, have been mobilized by the Roman Catholic Church to secure the banning of this film."

The committee also charged that the decision was an admission "that only such news, information, education and entertainment as are satisfactory to a denomination may be presented to the public by WGN."

The film was defended by the Protestant churchmen as historically authentic, but not sectarian, and "far less controversial than many other television programs which have been telecast by WGN without protest from us, although their content and point of view were favorable to the Roman Catholic Church."

"De facto censorship of this character," they said, "violates the principles of civil and religious liberty as defined in the First Amendment to the Constitution."

"Reader's Digest" Editor Speaker at Convention

CINCINNATI — Dr. Clarence Hall, senior editor of *Reader's Digest,* will speak on "Christian Missionaries Are My Heroes" at the Ninth Annual Convention of the Evangelical Press Association to be held in Hotel Sheraton-Gibson here, January 22, 23. Two other addresses are scheduled for Dr. Hall during the convention—one on "Editorial and Feature Writing" and another on "Manuscript Appraisal."

Other significant addresses will be given by Dr. Carl F. H. Henry, editor of *Christianity Today,* on the world picture from the theological standpoint, and Joseph T. Bayly, editor of *His,* on "How We Can Be Creative Editors."

Featured in the convention will be reports on latest mailing and photographic techinques; tips by experts on typography, production, circulation and other editorial problems, and wonderful Christian fellowship—according to Mr. William A. Ackerman, executive secretary.

"Chairman of the day" for the Tuesday sessions of the convention will be Dr. James DeForest Murch, editor of *United Evangelical Action,* a founder and first president of EPA, and for Wednesday, Dr. Louis H. Benes, editor of *The Church Herald* and present vice-president of the Association.

EPA officers are: President, Mr. Russell T. Hitt, editor *Eternity Magazine*; Vice President, Dr. Benes; Secretary, Miss Verda Bloomhuff, office editor *United Evangelical Action*; Treasurer, Mr. Mel Larson, editor *Youth for Christ,* and Advisers, Rev. J. Fred Parker, editor *Conquest,* and Dr. Oliver G. Wilson, editor *The Wesleyan Methodist.*

Inquiries concerning details of plans for the convention should be sent to Mr. Ackerman at 10625 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 28, Ill.

Radio-TV

"This Is the Answer" Is Now Top TV Production

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The 100th station in the United States to schedule presentation of the new inspirational television series "This Is the Answer" became WTOP-TV in Washington, D. C., it was announced by the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The first religious television program to be filmed in color, "This Is the Answer," is presented as a non-

sectarian public service, offering the message of the Gospel as a guide for everyday living. Each episode is based on a parable from the Bible dramatically portrayed in modern-day situations.

Professional Hollywood actors and actresses play contemporary roles in the half-hour episodes which were filmed at the studios of Family Films Inc., makers of other outstanding TV and feature length religious films. Emphasis is upon dramatic presentation of spiritual values in relation to American life today rather than on "preaching."

Rev. Paul M. Stevens, director of the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention which produced the quarter-million dollar series, pointed out that the basic message of the Bible can be useful to people of all creeds in helping solve their everyday problems. The biblical parables are used since they were used by Jesus in teaching, he said, and because they provide appealing and familiar dramatic situations, applicable to today's problems.

Stevens stated that in seven months of programming, statistical estimates show an audience of very nearly three million people per episode has been reached. A second series in color, also budgeted at a quarter-million dollars, is in production for release in early 1957, he said.

Two New Broadcasts For Ft. Wayne School

FORT WAYNE, IND.—Fort Wayne Bible College begins separate weekly radio and television series on two of Fort Wayne's broadcasting stations in January.

Beginning January 13, a radio series called "Crossroads" will be aired on Sundays at 11:30 p.m. (CDST) on WOWO, 50,000-watt outlet (1190 kc). Almost concurrently, a new television series "Doorway" will begin on January 20 to be produced each Sunday at 2:15 p.m. on WKJG-TV.

Inter-church

Urge NCC to Send Official Delegation to Red China

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—The National Council of Churches was urged here to send a delegation of American churchmen to Communist China against the convictions of millions of loyal Americans in its constituency.

The request was one of a series of recommendations presented by fifteen study groups to the joint assembly of the Council's divisions of Home Missions and Christian Life and Work. All of the recommendations were referred to council departments for implementation.

The proposal to send American churchmen to China declared that "the present impact of world affairs has revealed the remarkable significance of direct links of fellowship and sharing between Christians across national, cultural, confessional, racial and political barriers."

It embraced a proposal made earlier to the assembly by Dr. John A. Mackay, president of Princeton (N.J.) Theological Seminary and friend of Reds in many lands. He reminded the church leaders here that contact had been made with the churches in Russia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Romania. Then he said, "It is absolutely imperative that face-to-face consultation be arranged with churchmen in Red China."

Protestant Church Gifts May Reach Two Billions

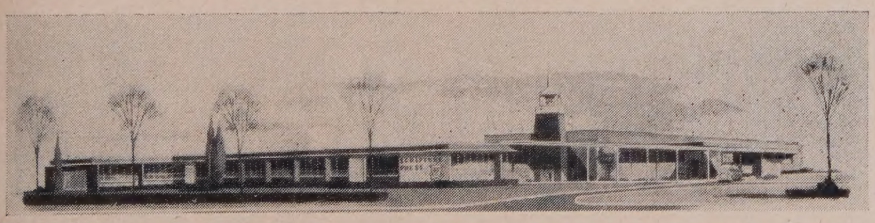
NEW YORK.—Americans gave more to their churches last year than ever before in history. The total may reach $2,000,000,000.

Contributions totaling $1,842,592,260—an overall increase of 11 per cent above the previous year—have been reported for 1955 by forty-eight Protestant and two Eastern Orthodox church bodies.

The 1955 figure, representing the giving of more than 48,000,000 church members, is a per capita increase of eight per cent—from $49.86 in 1954 to a new all-time high of $53.94.

The new figures were announced by Rev. T. K. Thompson, executive director of the NCC Department of Stewardship and Benevolence. The survey was compiled by the Department in co-operation with the Council's Bureau of Research and Survey. Mr. Thompson said they represent significant gains in giving in all major areas of church life.

A breakdown in the figures shows Americans last year gave a total of $1,484,490,642 for congregational expenses—an increase of 11.8 per cent. These funds went to pay minister's salaries, church building, maintenance and repairs, fuel, lighting and similar



NEW SCRIPTURE PRESS BUILDING.—Between 2,500 and 3,000 friends and well-wishers attended the Dedication and Open House at the new two-acre Scripture Press building at Wheaton, Ill., December 7, 8 and 9. A near-capacity crowd enjoyed the formal Dedication service on Friday night. Among those on the program were the Honorable Edwin R. Farrar, Mayor of Wheaton; Raphal N. Friedman, outstanding architect and builder of the new Scripture Press plant; David L. Roberts, president of the Wheaton Kiwanis Club representing the local service organizations; Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College; Rev. Wendell P. Loveless, outstanding song writer, radio personality and pastor; Dr. Robert A. Cook, president of Youth for Christ International; Dr. Carl Armerding, well-known Bible teacher; and Rev. Malcolm Cronk, pastor of the large Wheaton Bible Church. Victor E. Cory, founder and president of Scripture Press, and Mrs. Cory graphically traced the rapid growth of Scripture Press from its beginning on the dining room table of their home nearly tweny-four years ago to the huge foundation today sending out many millions of copies of gospel literature to all six continents of the globe.

FINAL

LATE NEWS AT PRESS TIME

- PRESIDENT EISENHOWER is expected to be the guest of honor at the annual prayer breakfast of International Christian Leadership, Inc., in the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., February 7. This event has become one of great spiritual significance to the nation.
- RADIO STATION HLKX, at Inchon, Korea went on the air Sunday, December 23. It is owned and operated by The Evangelical Alliance Mission and forms another link in the chain of worldwide evangelical missionary broadcasting facilities.
- SOCIAL SECURITY coverage will be denied members of the clergy who do not elect to receive it by April 15, 1957. Exception is made only in the case of newly-ordained ministers, who have two years following ordination to ask for it.
- A GOVERNMENT INQUIRY has been asked by Protestants and Other Americans United into the suppression by Station WGN-TV, Chicago, of the television film, "Martin Luther." It is understood that the National Association of Evangelicals and the National Religious Broadcasters, Inc., will join the POAU in this request.
- THE "LUTHERAN HOUR" float, entered in the annual Tournament of Roses at Pasadena, California, was awarded first prize in the religious organizations category. Second prize went to the Salvation Army.
- BONANZA AIRLINES has become the first commercial airline to file a passenger tariff with the Civil Aeronautics Board offering reduced fares to clergymen. This small "feeder" line will grant fifty per cent discount on a "space available" basis.
- COLOMBIA'S BAN on Protestant missionaries in a substantial area of the country may be lifted, according to Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, NAE secretary of public affairs. Protests of the USA State Department have been supported by British and Canadian governments and favorable action is expected soon.
- BOB PIERCE, president of World Vision, Inc., is evangelist in the largest Gospel crusade ever held in the Philippines. Meetings in Manila, January 13-February 3 are being held in the world-famous sunken gardens in the heart of the city.
- FOUNDER'S WEEK at Moody Bible Institute, Feb. 4-10, 1957 will feature Rev. John R. W. Stott, rector of All Souls Church, Langham Place, London, England among its nineteen speakers.

Meditations for the Lenten Season

• WRITTEN especially for the Lenten and Easter season, the March-April number of The Upper Room provides inspiration for daily devotions during this most important period of the Christian calendar.

• Most churches give a special emphasis to personal devotions and family altars at this time.

• Make sure that in *your* church every family and every youth away from home has a copy of The Upper Room to help them in their Easter devotionals. Using this devotional guide during Lent will help them form the habit.

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expenses. Per capita for congregational expenses was $43.46.

Benevolences, including contributions to both home and foreign missions, also hit a new high—up 7.9 per cent for a total of $358,101,618—or a per capita rate of $10.51.

Twenty-one of the church bodies recorded reported 33.4 per cent of their congregational expenses went into new building programs, for a total of $281,385,636. A year earlier 18 bodies reported expenditures for new building at $213,547,055—or 31.4 per cent of total congregational expenses.

Approve $13,290,000 For National Council

LOS ANGELES—A 1957 budget of $13,290,000 for the National Council of Churches was adopted by its General Board at a meeting here.

A total of $2,441,000, or about eighteen per cent of the 1957 budget, is designated for "interpretation of the Christian message" through Christian education, evangelism, radio, films and television "and application of Christian ethics to all areas of the common life."

About $1,538,000 is earmarked for publishing operations and film productions and supervision of general services.

"Super Church" operations of the Council are increasing year after year.

Gotham Holiness Meet Draws Large Audiences

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—The Brooklyn Holiness Convention held its forty-first annual session in the Free Methodist Church of Brooklyn recently. Holiness churches and societies in the Greater New York area were represented in large numbers.

Featured were the sermons and services of Dr. Robert I. Goslaw, superintendent of the New York District of the Church of the Nazarene. On Salvation Army night Capt. Clifton Sipley spoke on the practical aspects of entire sanctification. Rev. Harold Shingledecker from the Urandi field in Africa was the missionary speaker.

Mr. Harold A. Voege, leading Holiness laymen, presided. Rev. Herbert Oliver was host pastor.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Red China Threatens Students in the USA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Chinese students in the United States have recently received threats from Communists aimed at forcing them all to return back behind the Iron Curtain, according to Norman B. Rohrer, editor of *The International Student.*

The Reds say that the students' families will be harmed if they do not comply.

Said Rohrer, "It has been difficult for the students to know what to do. They are torn between devotion to their families in China and the personal advantage of staying in America. Here they have unlimited freedom, high salaries and material comfort; back home, just the opposite. But they love their families.

"The United States offers political asylum to any of the 3,000 Chinese students who wish to remain. But the Communists desperately need these brilliant chemists, physicists, metallurgists and engineers to help in their huge program of industrialization. So they have resorted to threats in order to get them back."

Oklahoma "Drys" Set Local Option Drive

OKLAHOMA CITY—(RNS)—Oklahoma United Drys will launch a campaign for county option on the sale of beer in the state with a mass-meeting here Jan. 28.

The speaker will be Dr. Duke McCall, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He is president of the National Temperance League.

Dr. Stanley B. Niles, executive secretary of the United Drys, said his group expect a "green light" on their petition for a statewide election to decide whether to outlaw the sale of 3.2 beer.

Gov. Raymond Gary, a staunch Baptist and personal dry, has told the United Drys he will call a special election once their petition has met legal requirements—which is expected to be some time after Feb. 1.

Protest Inaugural Liquor Decanters

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(RNS)—Religious and temperance groups here asked President Eisenhower and former Presidents Herbert Hoover and Harry S. Truman to forbid the use

of their names on an "inaugural" liquor decanter to be marketed during the inauguration of the President here.

A large East Coast distillery announced that it was bottling whisky in the "inaugural souvenir" decanter for nationwide sale. The decanter will list the names of all American presidents, their home states and inaugural dates, along with a picture and brief history of the Capitol.

Dr. Caradine R. Hooton, general secretary of the Methodist Board of Temperance, appealed to President Eisenhower in behalf of "fellow Christians of many denominations." He charged the distiller with making a "shocking and subtle attempt to connect the President with a product that kills more citizens than war itself."

Clayton M. Wallace, executive direct of the National Temperance League, sent the President a similar message. He also asked Dwight E. Avis, head of the Treasury Department's alcohol tax division, to investigate the legality of the distiller's action in marketing the bottles.

youth

Evangelical Youth, Inc. Affiliates with NSSA

CHICAGO.—Evangelical Youth, Inc. an organization of youth leaders, affiliated from its beginning with the National Association of Evangelicals, has recently been aligned with the National Sunday School Association.

The NAE board of administration has authorized this transfer because they feel it can mean smoother operation. It does not mean a change of policy in any sense.

The functions of the NSSA as the Christian Education arm of NAE and the Youth Commission often overlapped, especially at such points as youth camps, week day activities and youth Sunday programs.

This move is in keeping with the trend locally to tie all the phases of Christian education in the church more closely together.

The Evangelical Youth Commission will fill the place NSSA originally planned for a youth commission. The organization will continue to co-operate as a separate group with their own officers and board, even though the program will be integrated.

Rev. Gunnar Hoglund, youth secretary for the Baptist General Conference of America, is the president of Evangelical Youth. No change in program is anticipated until the National Association of Evangelicals convention to be held in Buffalo, April 2-4.

denominations

Bible Presbyterians Drop McIntire and Some Others

COLUMBUS, O.—The 20th General Synod of the Bible Presbyterian Church met here last November 28-30, preceded by a special *pro re nata* Synod on November 27. Chief action taken was to discipline some thirty Bible Presbyterian ministers by "erasing" their names from official Bible Presbyterian rolls. The men were dropped for having participated in an "illegal" Synod in Collingswood, New Jersey, called by Dr. Carl A. McIntire, last November 23.

Dr. R. Laird Harris, Moderator of the Nineteenth Synod, was chosen to continue in his office for the *pro re nata* meeting, which had been called to consider certain appeals and complaints of an administrative nature. This Synod also dealt with the matter of the rival Synod which had been called in Collingswood, New Jersey, by Dr. Carl McIntire, Moderator of the New Jersey Presbytery, together with the Moderators of two other presbyteries.

N.S.S.A. Uniform Lesson Series

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Bible centered worship material and advertising posters for the observance of the World Day of Prayer, March 8, 1957, is available from the National Association of Evangelicals, 108 North Main Street, Wheaton, Illinois. There is no charge for the material, but an offering is encouraged which will be used for the Evangelical Ads program of the NAE.

Please send the following World Day of Prayer materials. (Indicate number needed.)

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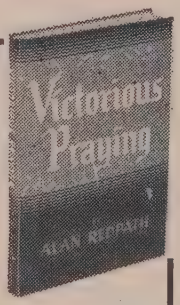

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(The Collingswood Synod had 64 voting delegates, plus "a large number including those who sent excuses or indicated an agreement." The Columbus Synod had 91 voting delegates, plus "a considerable number of visitors," with each of the 11 Presbyteries of the Synod represented. The Columbus Synod was one of the largest in the history of the Bible Presbyterian denomination.)

The Columbus Synod made no plans to institute either ecclesiastical or civil proceedings against the brethren who met in the "illegal" Collingswood Synod, but took cognizance of the fact that they had in reality set up another body, and simply dropped their names from the rolls, in a lengthy covering motion.

The regular Synod elected Rev. LaVerne Donaldson, missionary under the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions, just returned from Bethlehem, Palestine (Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan). Interest was manifested in the missionaries of the Bible Presbyterian Church laboring under the Independent Board, and plans were made to continue and strengthen their support.

Find Mennonite Church Broken in "Red" Russia

DOYLESTOWN, Pa.—(RNS)—Two delegates of the Mennonite Central Committee who spent three weeks in Russia said that their co-religionists in the Soviet were enjoying more freedom since the death of Joseph Stalin than previously. But they said "the Church is broken and its members widely scattered."

Dr. Harold S. Bender, dean of the Goshen (Ind.) Biblical Seminary, and Rev. David B. Wiens, an evangelist for the Mennonite Brthren Churches in Western Canada, travelled from Moscow as far east as Novisibirsk. They gave their first report of the trip to a gathering of some 900 persons at the Blooming Glen Mennonite church near here.

Most Russian Mennonites now live in the territory of the Ural Mountains or east of the Urals. They were moved there from the Ukraine, Crimea, and Volga River Valley. Mennonite colonies in Siberia have largely remained there.

United States Mennonites have heard little about their Russian brethren since World War II.

"No general organization" of Mennonite churches in the Soviet Union has yet been effected, the Mennonite representatives reported.

Four Lutheran Groups Proceed Toward Union

CHICAGO—(RNS)—Representatives of four American Lutheran Churches agreed here to proceed at once toward a goal of organic union of their denominations.

The forty-two delegates voted to form a constitution for a united Church that would include articles of doctrine as well as "practical matters of organization."

"We have among us sufficient ground of agreement in the common confession of our faith, as witnessed by the Lutheran Confessions, to justify further procedure," they said.

Involved in the merger scheme are the 2,270,000-member United Lutheran Church in America; the 536,000-mem-

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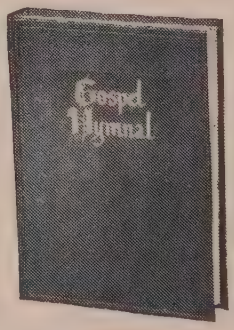

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ber Augustana Lutheran Church; the 35,000-member Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (Suomi Synod); and the 20,000-member American Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The delegates constituted themselves a permanent Joint Commission on Lutheran Unity and elected permanent officers. Dr. Malvin H. Lundeen of La Grange, Ill., vice-president of the Augustana Lutheran Church, was named chairman.

Sunday School Board in Multi-Million Project

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board has authorized construction of a $1,000,000 activities building as the first step in a 24-year, multi-million dollar program to develop recently-acquired railroad property here.

Dr. James L. Sullivan, executive secretary-treasurer, said the project was approved during the board's semi-annual meeting here. "The board is expanding to meet our denomination's growing needs for religious education materials," he said.

Dr. Sullivan said construction on the new buiding is expected to begin in 1957.

The first unit will have about 100,000 square feet of floor space, he said, and probably be four stories high. Additional plans call for adding units on all sides and on top of the building.

He said the buildings will be developed for the receiving, assembling, storing and shipping of all periodicals, graded literature, Baptist bulletins and merchandise.

Foursquare Churches In Annual Convention

LOS ANGELES—Taking for its text —"And this gospel must be preached . . .," the 34th annual convention of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel chose "Preach the Word" for the theme of its conclave February 6-14 in Los Angeles.

Daily seminars and panel discussions, Sunday school and youth days, missionary rally and home missions service at which twenty-five-year awards will be presented, are to be highlighted on the convention agenda by outstanding speakers including Rev. Charles Blair, pastor Calvary Temple, Denver; Evangelist Jack Peters, Dr. Clair E. Britton, pastor Bethany Church, Alhambra, and Dr. Howard P. Courtney, Dr. N. M. Van Cleave, and Dr. Harold Chalfant, officials of the Foursquare movement.

Dr. Rolf K. McPherson, president, and son of the late Aimee Semple McPherson, founder of the Church of the Foursquare Gospel, will officiate at the eight-day conclave. Sessions will be held three times daily in Angelus Temple.

MISSIONS

Nile Mission Press Is Under Dictator's Heel

LONDON.—The Nile Mission Press, after a long and noble history in the cause of Christian missions among the Arab peoples, has been closed by edict of the Nasser government.

The printing works at Zeitoun are padlocked and the property has been

DR. MYRON F. BOYD

Annual Mid-Winter Indoor Camp Meeting
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sequestered by the authorities. The mission, in common with other societies working in Egypt, is concerned about the day-to-day financial needs of the workers in view of Bank restrictions and the impossibility of transmitting funds from Britain. Inevitably the Egyptian staff have lost their jobs for the time being. Prayer is asked that needs may be met and that work in Christian literature for the Arab world may speedily be resumed. Rev. A. S. Kerry, who has recently been appointed secretary in place of Mr. H. F. Roe, hopes to take up his duties in February.

Slaying of Missionaries Brings Mission Recruits

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—The killing of five American missionaries by Auca Indians in Ecuador last January has had a direct effect in the volunteering of some 2,000 young persons for foreign mission work.

Rev. Robert B. Savage, program director of radio station HCJB at Quito, Ecuador, made this report on a visit here accompanied by other officials of the station, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary in the radio missionary field. The station is sponsored by the World Radio Missionary Fellowship.

The missionaries were killed while making an attempt to contact the savage Aucas, who occupy the Ecuador jungle and have never been reached successfully by white men. Mr. Savage said that, as far as he knew, no missionaries were planning further attempts to reach the Aucas at this time.

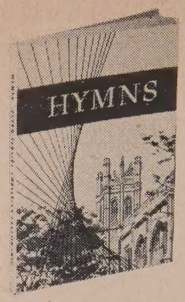
The widows of all five missionaries have returned to Ecuador to help in the mission work. Mrs. McCully is in charge of a home for missionaries' children who are attending school in Quito.

Education

Third Annual Philosophy Conference at Wheaton

WHEATON, Ill. — An enthusiastic reception was accorded to the third annual philosophy conference, sponsored on November 30 by Wheaton college, Wheaton, Illinois. The general topic, the problem of faith and reason, was discussed in relation to Wesley, by Professor George A. Turner of Asbury seminary; Luther by Professor Siegbert Becker of Concordia Teachers' college; Calvin by Professor Kenneth S. Kantzer of Wheaton college, and the Amsterdam school by Professor Cornelius Van Til of Westminster seminary. Nearly 100 representatives attended from Aurora college, Calvin college, Faith seminary, Grace college and seminary, Trinity college and seminary and elsewhere. Wheaton college faculty and students filled the meeting room.

Each speaker gave a popular lecture and read a technical seminar paper on the same subject. Lectures and seminars met concurrently, providing meetings suited to the level of all who attended. The general conclusion was expressed at an evening banquet by Professor John W. Sanderson of Covenant seminary, that the Church has devoted 25 years to forging weapons of reason



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to use in the cause of the faith. It is now time that evangelicals put these weapons to use in the philosophical battle grounds of our day.

Wheaton College will host the Eighth Annual Christian Social Work conference March 28 through 30. Meeting in conjunction with the conference will be the National Association of Christian Social Workers (formerly known as the Evangelical Social Work conference), one section of which is comprised of professionally trained workers.

personalia

Lowell E. Roberts has been appointed interim president of Friends University, Wichita, Kan., succeeding Dr. Lloyd S. Cressman who resigned recently.

Ralph J. Montanus, known as "America's blind evangelist," has been installed as pastor of the interracial Bethany Baptist Church, Jamaica, N. Y.

Chester G. Stanley and **Ralph Comfort,** of the Foreign Missionary Board of the Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, are spending the winter weeks with the Friends Mission Council in central India. They expect to visit their mission stations in Formosa before returnng to the USA.

Merlin G. Smith, who has served as president of Roberts Wesleyan College since 1933, will retire at the end of the present school year.

Z. P. Charles, director of the Spanish Christian Mission, recently jailed and expelled from Spain for distributing Bibles and engaging in evangelistic work, announces the establishment of a new radio broadcast to be beamed toward Spain from Tangier.

H. A. Hermansen, for ten years associate pastor of Moody Church, Chicago, has resigned to take effect at "a mutually satisfactory time," due to the illness of Mrs. Hermansen. Mr. Hermansen is greatly beloved by Moody people.

Hyman Appelman recently concluded an evangelistic campaign sponsored by Christ for Greater Los Angeles and a large number of Southern California churches, in which there were more than 1,200 recorded conversions and additions to the churches.

Albert C. Fuller, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif., has been chosen field director of the Conservative Baptist Association in the State of Washington. A large church-planting program is being undertaken.

Calvin Chao, of Hong Kong and Singapore, has been appointed head of the Chinese department of International Students, Inc. Dr. Chao is the founder of the Singapore Theological Seminary and active in the work of the Evangelical Fellowship.

C. I. Armstrong, of Houghton, N.Y., was speaker in the annual missionary conference of World Gospel Mission at Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, January 8-13. Later he is to conduct meetings in Johannesburg, South Africa, in Belgian Congo, Kenya and Britsh East Africa. Mrs. Armstrong and the "Singing Sheppards" are accompanying Dr. Armstrong.

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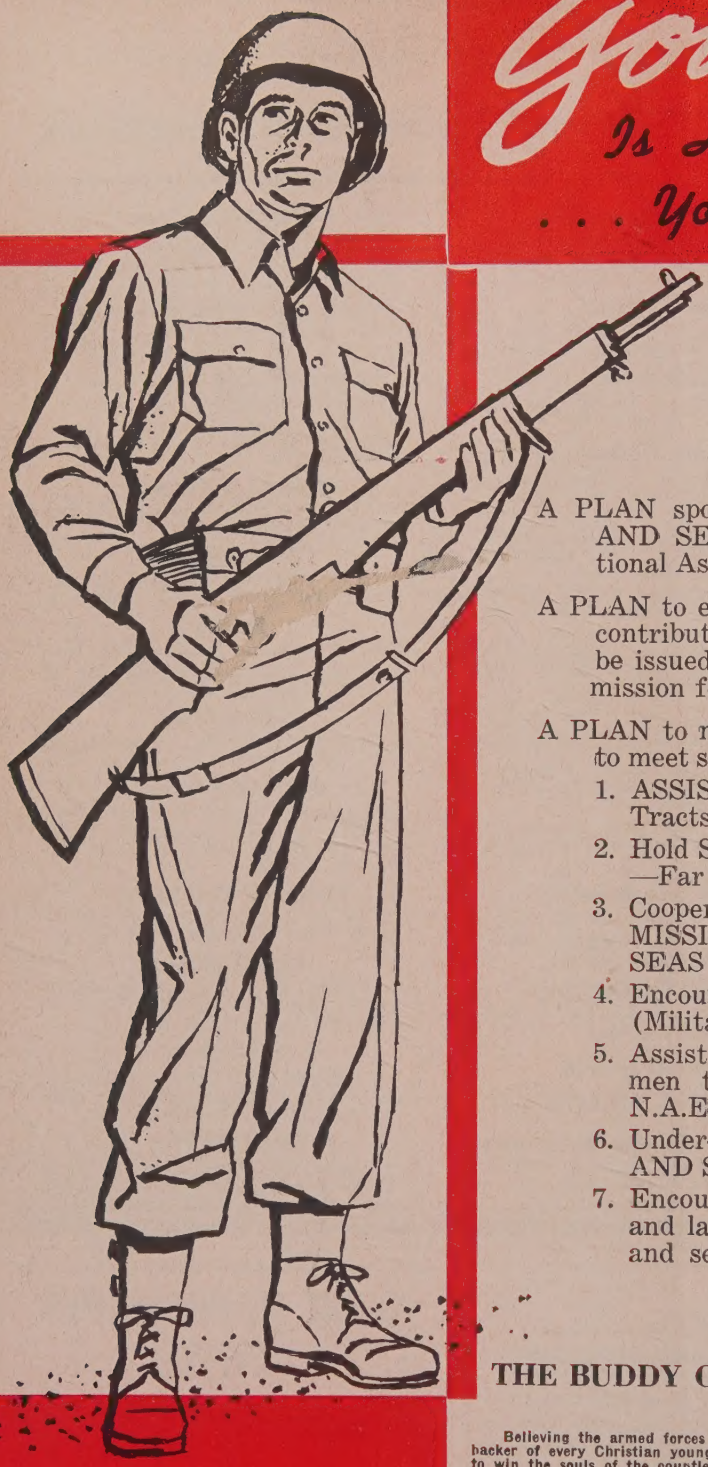

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